

BEAVERCREEK IN TOUCH



FALL 2019

A BEAVERCREEK COMMUNITY PUBLICATION

LEVY EDITION

CITY AND TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS TO VOTE ON FIRST FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LEVY IN 10 YEARS

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FIRE

The fire department's 2009 ten-year funding plan ends in 2019. The 2009 plan has provided stable funding for fire suppression and emergency medical services since it was passed with overwhelming community support. As planned, the fire department now requires additional funding to continue providing the high quality service to which the community has become accustomed, as well as making necessary capital improvements. This is the fire department's first funding request in over 10 years. The 3.5 additional mills continuing levy, Issue #6 on the November 5th ballot, will provide the required funding to continue operations and necessary capital improvements for the next 10 years.

FIRST FUNDING REQUEST IN 10 YEARS

The fire department's last request for funding was November 2009. At that time the community overwhelmingly supported the funding plan by combining two existing levies into a single replacement 2.0 mills levy. Before this replacement, the department faced a 30% reduction in operating funds every five years. This action provided the necessary funding and long-term stability to continuously improve service delivery over the past decade. In particular, it provided the opportunity to transition from a combination staffed department to an all full-time firefighter department.

HONORED COMMITMENT TO DROP 2.00 MILLS LEVY IN 2013

As part of the 2009 funding plan, the department committed to using the proceeds of an existing five-year, 2.0 mills levy for specifically identified capital needs and then allowed it to expire without asking for it to be renewed or replaced. In 2012 the fire department honored the commitment to let it expire, with the resulting reduction in property taxes. Over the past decade, the identified capital projects were completed, with the renovation of Fire Station 62 (Knollwood), replacement of Fire Station 64 (Indian Ripple), purchase of five fire engines, one ladder truck, and four ambulances.

2020 TEN-YEAR FUNDING PLAN FUTURE COMMITMENTS

-  **MAINTAIN** the quality and level of Fire and EMS Services our City and Township residents expect
-  **STAFF** our fire department to support increased call volume and care for our Senior Citizens and Assisted Living Centers
-  **BUILD** two new fire stations to support our existing and growing demand for Fire and EMS Services
-  **EQUIP** our fire stations and professional firefighters with Advanced Life Saving technology and training
-  **PROVIDE** critical Life Saving and Fire Prevention Training in our schools, churches, and businesses
-  **PLAN & PREPARE** for future large incidents and natural disaster responses

MAINTAIN QUALITY AND LEVEL OF FIRE & EMS SERVICES

Beavercreek’s growth continues to drive fire department calls for service. Since 2009 annual calls for service have increased by 35%, to over 6,700, including over 4,200 patients transported to area hospitals. This call volume requires sufficient staffing, apparatus, and fire stations to handle incidents over the district’s nearly 49 square miles, with about 5% of incidents occurring simultaneously.

STAFF TO SUPPORT INCREASED CALL VOLUME

The fire department transitioned to an all career department in late 2014, following the Beavercreek Township Performance Audit (Recommendation #26, p.49) which showed that relying on a continually revolving pool of part-time employees both hindered the ability to provide consistent, professional service levels as well as being a financial drain through the continual need to attract, hire, and train employees.

BUILD TWO NEW FIRE STATIONS TO SUPPORT DEMAND

Fire department resources (staffing and fire engines) are located throughout the community to minimize travel times to emergency calls for service. The fire department’s 2016 Standards of Cover study identified the need for two additional fire stations.

Station 65 will be built on the fire department’s property at the intersection of Fairgrounds Road and Trebein Road, to provide primary response coverage into Dorset Downs, Rolling Meadows, Hickory Hollow, Claiborne Greens, Stonehill Village, Spring Ridge and Spring Meadow, the Conservancy, and Nathaniel’s Grove.

Station 66 will be built on Greene County Airport property and will provide primary response coverage to Greene County Airport, Wood Ridge, Maxwell Place, Windemere, Scarborough, Bexley Hills, Country Club of the North, and the future Valley Springs.

EQUIP FIREFIGHTERS WITH ADVANCED LIFE SAVING TECHNOLOGY

The fire department’s SCBA (the airpicks and masks worn during firefighting operations) were originally purchased in 2006 and need to be replaced. The SCBA will no longer be supported by the manufacturer after 2021, meaning no replacement parts or training for maintenance technicians will be available.

Each fire department apparatus has an estimated front line life cycle from 5 years for a medic, to 15 years for a fire engine, and 25 years for a ladder truck. Each unit is inspected and graded annually using fleet assessment ratings, taking into account: age, mileage, engine hours (due to long emergency scene idle times), maintenance costs, and out-of-service times. Based on current scores it is estimated that over the next ten years, the department will need to replace 4 fire engines, 1 ladder truck, and 5 ambulances.

Firefighters also utilize technology like Lifepak cardiac monitors, Lucas CPR machines, Stryker patient power loading systems, thermal imaging cameras, Priority Dispatch unified call taking, Mach Alert station alerting, and Ohio’s Multi-Agency Radio Communication System to accomplish their mission.

PROVIDE CRITICAL LIFE SAVING AND FIRE PREVENTION TRAINING

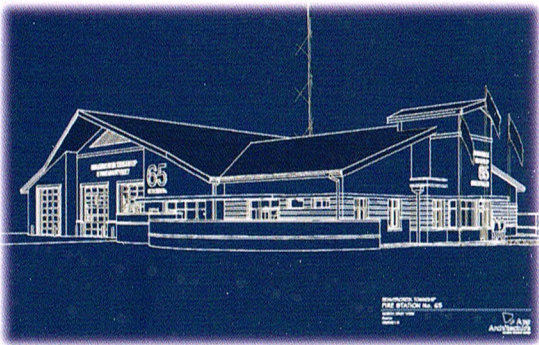
The department provides critical life saving and fire prevention training, like CPR, Stop the Bleed, Exit Drills in the Home, and fire extinguisher use to at-risk populations including children and senior citizens (as identified by the National Fire Protection Association), through our schools, churches, and businesses.

PLAN & PREPARE FOR LARGE INCIDENTS AND NATURAL DISASTERS

The fire department also trains for and responds to large incidents and disasters. The department trains annually with law enforcement for active shooter/threat and mass casualty incidents. The department also responds to disasters like the 2019 Memorial Day tornado outbreak, which are extremely expensive and are generally not reimbursed.



Firefighters removing a patient from an overturned car.



Architectural rendering of Station 65 design.



Firefighters extinguishing a fire while using SCBA.



Engine 62 and Ladder 61 operating at a structure fire.

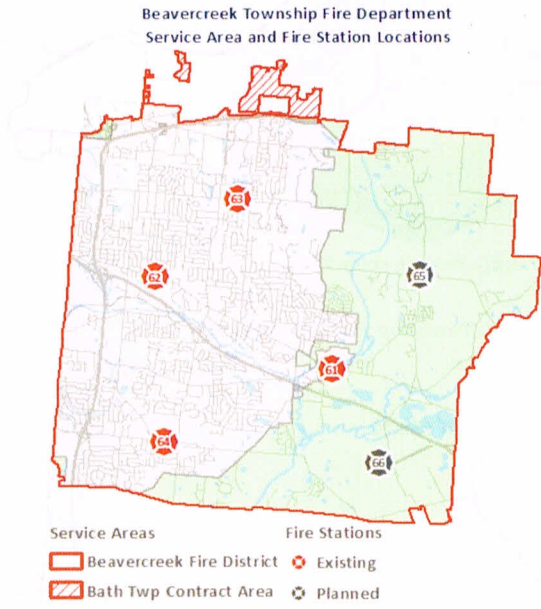
SERVICE AREAS, STATIONS, AND STAFFING

The **Beavercreek Township Fire Department** proudly serves a fire district that provides fire suppression, emergency medical services (EMS), technical rescue, and fire prevention services to the incorporated **City of Beavercreek** and unincorporated **Beavercreek Township**, and part of Bath Township (by contract).



Since it’s establishment in 1946, the fire department has grown from four independent volunteer fire companies into a modern, suburban fire department staffed daily by 24 full-time, career firefighters who are also certified emergency medical technicians. The department currently holds an ISO Class 3 rating.

Each of the four current fire stations has an Advanced Life Support (ALS) fire engine and an ALS ambulance available to respond to emergencies. Additionally, department staffing includes a rescue company that cross-staffs a ladder truck and heavy rescue. The department also has several specialty units, including a water tanker, an all terrain vehicle, and a bariatric ambulance that are utilized as necessary to meet the district’s emergency needs.



FISCAL PLANNING, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

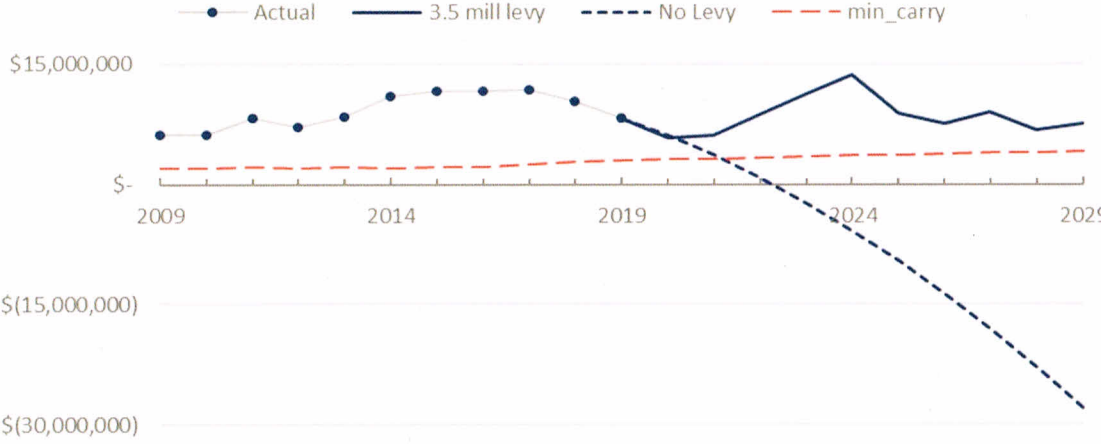
The fire department’s 10-year funding plans (2009 and 2020) provide necessary long-term financial stability for maintaining emergency services while ensuring transparency and accountability to you, the tax payer. Beavercreek is a successful, growing community. That growth impacts the fire department through newly constructed homes and businesses that require coverage and increased calls for service. By forecasting emergency services growth and comparing it to available resources, the fire department is able to anticipate financial needs and limit the number of times it is necessary to ask you for additional funding. The fire department also uses an extensive, 15+ point review process to ensure that every expenditure is necessary, planned, and budgeted. It also ensures that the lowest, best vendor is selected and that long-term financial impacts are considered before a purchase is made. Finally, the fire department utilizes the three Township allowed best practices: use of capital funds, an accumulated benefits account, and revenue balancing accounts.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CASH BALANCE PROJECTIONS

This chart shows the fire department’s actual cash balance from 2009 through 2019. The red dashed line shows the estimated minimum cash balance necessary for continued operations.

Also displayed are two projections:

- 1) if the 3.5 mills levy is passed
- 2) if no funding changes are made (No Levy)



For additional information please visit these websites:

- beavercreekfire.org/levy
- apps.co.greene.oh.us/auditor/taxestimator
- greene.ohio.oe.com/apps/pollfinder.aspx





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Election Day, November 5, 2019

Polls are open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Early voting begins October 8, 2019

Vote ☒
FIRE

FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LEVY ISSUE #6

- ✿ First funding request in 10 years
- ✿ 3.5 mills additional, continuing levy
- ✿ \$122.50 per year, per \$100,000 appraised value
- ✿ Generates estimated \$6.1 million annually

For more information:



Beavercreek firefighters participating in a series of training exercises with Underwriters Laboratories, Fall 2018